



Society
Clubs

Society Is Very Much on The Go These Days

By Evelyn C. Hunt.

SOcially these are busy days! No White House activities, no Congress in session and winter still some distance off, and yet our social calendars are all full and some days last week were so crowded it was impossible to "take in" everything we wanted to go to. Some days were really like a thrilling circus. Monday was a good example of that. There was, for one thing, the opening of the annual convention of the Garden Club of America. The first session, some 800 men and women from different parts of the country and most of them prominent, opened at 8 o'clock Monday night. The convention lasted through Wednesday and noted botanists and others addressed the various meetings.

Washington boasts no garden club of its own, but it is hoped that this convention has aroused enough interest to remedy that. The first of the convention's social activities took place on Tuesday, when the club was entertained at historic Gunston Hall, on the Potomac, in Virginia, with Mrs. Louis Hertle, the owner, as hostess. A picnic luncheon was served on the lawn and the hostess was assisted by Lady Geddes, wife of the British Ambassador; Mrs. Henry C. Wallace, wife of the Secretary of Agriculture, and Mrs. Samuel Sloan, president of the Garden Club of America. On the way down steps were made at historic old Pohick Church and at Mount Vernon, where a wreath was placed on Washington's tomb and a tree planted by the Garden Club of America.

Mrs. Charles D. Walcott, wife of the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, gave a reception Tuesday evening and on Wednesday Mrs. Hoover, wife of the Secretary of Commerce, entertained the Garden Club members at tea. That evening Mrs. Minnigerode Andrews presented "The Voice of the Wild Flowers" in honor of the Garden Club under a very smart patronage. "The Voice of the Wild Flowers" is a charming little pageant-fantasy an appeal for the preservation of wild flowers, written in delicate vein and danced to lovely music. A charming feature connected with the convention was the opening of a number of historic homes and gardens in Washington and vicinity for the inspection of the delegates, but I'll tell you about that elsewhere.

MONDAY night was marked by the very gay opening of the charming new cafe here, Le Paradis, on Thomas circle, where Mrs. Thomas F. Walsh and a number of others gave dinner parties. I really think everybody in town worth knowing was there. In fact, the same was more or less true every other night last week, too. The cafe is very attractive; ever one Monday night was most enthusiastic about it. They have the pleasant head waiter in town, Robert, who used to be at the Cafe St. Marks. The Cary Graysons had a party; the Paul Hudsons; the young Peter Drury, who had with them Miss Betty Walsley, who is visiting in town after an absence of some months in New York. Elsie Janis had a table, and with her, among others, were her mother and Ambassador Pezet, and Bowler Clark. Comdr. C. B. Platt—Bob Platt as his friends call him—was there; also Lieut. George Price—everybody imaginable!

Every available spot was occupied. The soirées were lovely, and quite a variety of them, too; black lace fans for the ladies, lovely boxes of delicious candy in black enamel boxes decorated with gold peacocks and Hubigant perfume buried in the candy; inkstands and cigarette trays and lighters for the men. Bottomly, of New York, was there to see how people liked his decorations; he "did" the restaurant, you know. Mr. Tompkins, who is the owner of the new building where the cafe is located, was at the party, too; Meyer Davis has leased the place from him for five years, I believe. All of the cafes and hotels are well filled these days; the Shoreham at luncheon time and Wardman at night are filled with the smart set; are really quite gay.

But to return to Monday, the "When Knighthood Was in Flower," was formally presented that evening with a very smart audience, many box parties being given and preceded by a number of dinner parties. Mrs. John F. Rodgers gave a dinner party, her guests including the Brazilian Ambassador, Augusto Cochrane de Alencar; Mrs. Charles Bromwell, Mr. and Mrs. George Westcott, and one or two others. Then Mrs. Bromwell entertained them in a box at the showing the film.

The theater was gaily decorated for the special occasion, and Victor Herbert, America's foremost composer, conducted the augmented orchestra in a special score to accompany the production.

In the audience were representatives of Washington's diplomatic, social and official life and the boxes were filled with several leaders who

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WASHINGTON, D. C. SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1922.



Capital
Chat

Odd Bits of Information of Old Houses and Gardens Gunston Hall Lovely.



MISS INGER BRYN, Daughter of the Minister from Norway and Madame Bryn.

Col. A. C. Dalton Gets Promotion

THE Secretary of War, John W. Weeks, has announced the promotion of Col. Albert C. Dalton, U. S. A., to be assistant to the quartermaster general with the grade of brigadier general. He succeeds Brig. Gen. John M. Carson, whose retirement was announced some time ago. Gen. Dalton is a veteran of the Indian and Spanish-American wars, Philippine Insurrection, Vera Cruz expedition, and took part in various engagements. During the world war he served as a temporary brigadier general, and among other duties served as expeditionary Q. M. in charge of the overseas depot at Philadelphia and as general superintendent of the Army Transport Service. He was awarded the D. S. M. He entered the regular army as an enlisted man in 1889.

Brig. Gen. J. B. Bellinger, whose announcement for selection for appointment to brigadier general was made several weeks ago, will succeed Brig. Gen. Charles R. Krauthoff as the other assistant quartermaster general.

Lieut. Col. Charles W. Van Way, U. S. A., and Mrs. Van Way, who with their younger children, Elizabeth and George, are motoring from Vancouver Barracks, Wash., to California, by way of Montana, have been spending the past several weeks at the McDowell ranch near Miles City. They expect to continue their journey to Pasadena in a few days and to locate permanently there following Col. Van Way's retirement for disability incident to the service, which will occur on the expiration of his present leave. Col. Van Way's last station of duty was Portland, Ore., where he had charge of the sales of the railroads and lumber mills built by the U. S. Spruce Production Corporation during the war. His retirement, ordered last March, was held up to enable him to complete this task.

Lieut. Col. John H. Read, Jr., U. S. A., and Mrs. Read have returned from a leave of two months spent in touring Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, and are located at 333 Belmont street, Belmont, Mass. Col. Read is taking a course of special training at the Ordnance School of Technology, Watertown Arsenal.

Little Paragraphs of Interest.

IS Alisa Mellon, daughter of the Secretary of the Treasury, engaged to Parker Gilbert, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, or is she not? Frankly I don't know. Her father's secretary, speaking for the Secretary, says positively it is not so. Her friends seem to believe it. I'm "kinda" hoping that it is so, for she is so sweet and attractive and he is said to be so fine and so clever and is a perfectly good American, too. She "plays around" so much with young attaches of various foreign embassies and legations that she might fall in love with one of them, you know.

Washington was keenly interested, too, in the news of Mrs. Diana Morgan Hill's engagement to Sir George Rhodes, Bart. of London. Sir George, who is a widower 60 years old, is the father-in-law of Ian MacPherson, David Lloyd George's minister of pensions. Mrs. Hill, who was socially prominent in Washington for many years, has been living in London about two years. They intend to continue making their home in London. Mrs. Henry Corbin, who was about to come home from Europe, has delayed her return until after the wedding as she and the bride are old friends. She doesn't want to miss it. Did you read that the former Mrs. James McDonald's new husband, the Marquis of Huntly, has just sold his wonderful old ancestral castle? I'm so glad to hear that Elizabeth Hughes, the 15-year-old daughter of the Secretary of State and Mrs. Hughes, is improving in health rapidly in Toronto, where she went in the middle summer to be under the personal care of Dr. F. G. Banting. I heard she has gained sixteen pounds since going to Toronto and will stay there all winter. She spent last winter in Bermuda.

It's good news, too, that Mary Tumulty, daughter of the former secretary to President Wilson, and Mrs. Joseph Tumulty, is on the road to health at last after being seriously injured in an automobile accident in Europe last summer. They hope to bring her home in a month. But she seems to have had "a close shave!"

The art ball which is being given by the executive committee of the Washington Opera Company in the New Willard ballroom on Monday evening, November 20, is of

Navy Class of 1907 Dinner Planned

THE class of 1907 of the Naval Academy is planning to have a reunion and dinner the night of the Navy-Penn State game at Washington. This dinner will be held at the Racquet Club. It is believed that between sixty and seventy-five members of the Academy class of 1907 will be present. The committee in charge consists of Emerick R. Leonard, Comdr. George M. Courts and Comdr. H. M. Remis.

Rear Admiral David W. Taylor, U. S. N., Mrs. Taylor and the Misses Mae and Imogen Taylor have returned to their home in Washington for the winter.

Comdr. C. S. Baker (S. C.), U. S. N., and his family have returned from a motor trip to the North and are now installed in their new home at 2237 Bancroft place.

Rear Admiral Joseph E. Strauss, U. S. N., and Mrs. Strauss are again in Washington at the Hotel Lafayette after an absence of many months spent in the Orient, where the admiral was in command of the Asiatic Fleet.

Mrs. Joseph A. Settle, mother of Lieut. (J. G.) Thomas G. W. Settle, U. S. N., has moved from her residence, 6935 Georgia avenue, opposite Walter Reed General Hospital, where she has been for the past year and a half, to Hotel Gordon, Sixteenth and I streets northwest, where she will spend the winter.

Mrs. Henry H. Hough closed her house at 51 West Fifty-second street, New York City, and sailed Saturday for St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, to join Capt. Hough, U. S. N., who is governor of the Virgin Islands.

Mrs. Spencer Higgins, wife of Lieut. Comdr. Higgins, attached to the U. S. S. New Mexico, entertained with a tea recently in honor of Mrs. L. H. Williams, the recent bride of Surgeon Williams, U. S. N., attached to the U. S. S. Mercy. Wives of the naval officers stationed at Los Angeles harbor were the guests.

Rear Admiral W. K. Van Raypen, U. S. N., and Mrs. Van Raypen have returned to Washington from their country home on Long Island. Their son-in-law and daughter, Baron

ROSE GREELY, daughter of the noted Arctic explorer, Maj. Gen. Adolphus W. Greely, was one of the delegates to the convention of the Garden Club of America and it was fine to see her again; she received a warm welcome by all old friends who saw her upon her return to Washington, where the Greelys were long prominent. They have been living in Boston for some time and Rose has returned there, but she and her father are coming here to live this winter; are taking an apartment I think in the Rochambeau. At least they will take one there if they can persuade the apartment people to let them keep their lovely collie dog, which they adore. They will move here in about a month. Miss Greely, you know, has studied landscape architecture and is now working at it. She has been taken into Horace Pease's architect office and will work with them; they are now working on some property near Charlottesville and having a beautiful time laying out a lovely garden. Horace Pease, a Capt. Pease, as he is usually called—is a great horseman and an active member of the Riding and Hunt Club.

I ran into Miss Greely at Mrs. Louis Hertle's party for the Garden Club delegates at historic Gunston Hall on Tuesday. And I completely lost my heart to Gunston Hall; it is perfectly charming inside and out. It has been so lovingly restored; all of the unifying alterations made by past owners were removed and the place is as near like it was when George Mason lived there as could be made. The house, which is of brick, looks small outside but isn't at all. There is a large hall that runs the full length of the house, with wide doors at each end, from both of which can be had charming vistas quite different. The one facing the river embraces a long walk, narrow, with a high hedge of gorgeous old box hedge which smelled so good to me. The age of the box is indicated by its great height; it is certainly seven feet tall and is as old as this nation. At the end of this long walk are two summer houses, one open and the other glassed in, and from there can be had a view of the gardens and the river beyond, a perfect place to sit in the sun and sew or read or just dream. The river view from there is charming; the walk and hedge view back toward the house is fascinating. The garden is formal and yet it isn't, and though so late in the season was a great profusion of blooms of many sorts on Tuesday.

THE house is furnished upstairs and down in perfect harmony with the house; not a clashing note. It is so livable, too; it would be a constant joy to reside in such a place. Mrs. Hertle is so dainty herself and you can see her personality reflected in every inch of her home. There are four big rooms on the first floor, all with the most fascinating, heavy carved windows and door frames and deep window recesses; I never saw prettier or more interesting colonial trim. In one room the walls are all wooden panels. I think they were originally covered with damask but when the Hertles took the house, they removed seven layers of wall paper from that one wall. It is lovely as it is now. The stairway is particularly pretty, too; is

very colonial and wins about twelve and ends above in an arched hallway that is unusual and extremely pretty. And the bed rooms, there are perfect, so colonial, so dainty and so usable. A modern heating system has been installed in the house but you can hardly find it; it has been skilfully hidden under window ledges and other similar places. The dainty window curtains, bed spreads, lamps; all in such harmony. And the view, one got from the bed room windows—well, I can't imagine anything more desirable than a home like Gunston Hall, ghost and all—for I hear there is a ghost.

Mrs. Minnigerode Andrews was telling me something interesting while at Gunston Hall Tuesday. She, you know, owns the lovely estate, "Vauxcluse," near Seminary Hill, about eleven miles from Washington in Virginia and some miles from Gunston Hall, but she said the latter place was cut from an original land grant of some 50,000 acres, of which "Vauxcluse" was the homestead. Gunston was part of the Vauxcluse estate originally before George Mason built there. Vauxcluse was the Peyton estate, I believe. The minister at Pohick Church told us so many interesting things about the history of that church, too; it was fascinating but too long to repeat now.

Many of the historic homes and gardens about Washington were thrown open to the Garden Clubbers; also some not so historic but beautiful like the Astor gardens of the Pan-American Union Building, where Dr. L. S. Rowe acted as host, when Albert Kelsey, associate architect of the building and designer of the Astor garden, gave a talk on the gardens.

Octagon House and its old walled garden were visited and they are perhaps two of the most interesting old places in Washington. Built in 1798 by Dr. William Thornton for Gen. John Tayloe, it was occupied by President James Madison, after the burning of the White House by the British in 1814. It was here that the treaty of Ghent was signed.

BELLEVUE, the present residence of John Newbold, was restored by him in 1913, 100 years after its occupancy by Charles Carroll, who acquired it a number of years after it was originally built. In Georgetown it is generally referred to as "the Rittenhouse house," as the Rittenhouses occupied it for years.

Bellevue dates back to Dolly Madison's day and the day of Dr. Thornton, who "was a painter as well as an architect and limned Washington and Jefferson; was a poet, too, and matched wits in verse with John Randolph, of Roanoke." Bellevue is let to Representative Ogden Mills, of New York. It was the home of the Bramillas during the last two years of their stay in Washington—Chevalier Bramilla being then counselor of the Italian Embassy and married to a daughter of the late George von Lengerke Meyer, who held two Cabinet positions and was later American Ambassador to Italy. They loved the old-time atmosphere of the place and were accustomed to rather mock at a modern addition, a sort of a sun parlor, which they dubbed "Flume" because it should have been Italian but isn't.

Next to its goodly heritage, however, Bellevue's chief claim to fame

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